

IN THE WRITTEN DESCRIPTION OF THE SPECIFICATION

Applicants present replacement paragraphs below indicating the changes with insertions indicated by underlining and deletions indicated by strikeouts and/or double bracketing.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 7 as follows:

Histos represents the principle that a person or entity is more likely to trust the opinion of another person or entity with whom she is familiar than trust the opinion of another person or entity who she does not know. Unlike Sporas, a reputation of a first entity in Histos depends on the second entity from whose perspective the determination is made, and other ratings of the second entity provided by other users in an on-line community or population.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 21 as follows:

Although in Fig. 1, each rating link only indicates a single rating, it is possible that an entity has provided more than one rating for another entity. The Zacharia reference discloses that if an entity has provided more than rating for another entity, the most recent rating should be selected to determine a personalized reputation of a first entity from the perspective of a second entity.

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 16.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 21 as follows:

where $R_k(n)$ is the personalized ratee reputation of an entity k from a perspective of a second entity a distance n from the entity k , $W_{jk}(n)$ is a rating provided by an entity j , located a distance $n-1$ from the second entity, ~~for the entity k a distance $n-1$ from the second entity~~, $R_j(n-1)$ is the personalized ratee reputation of the entity j from the perspective of the second entity, and D is a range of allowable personalized reputation values.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 37, line 2 as follows:

where $R_k(n)$ is the personalized ratee reputation of an entity k from a perspective of a second entity a distance n from the entity k , $W_{jk}(n)$ is a rating provided by an entity j for the entity k , where the entity j is a distance $n-1$ from the second entity, $R_j(n-1)$ is the personalized ratee reputation of the entity j from the perspective of the second entity, D is a range of allowable personalized ratee reputation values ~~valves~~, and $f(n)$ is a function of the distances n between the second entity and the entity K (i.e., a function of the length of the rating paths between the second entity and entity K), such as, for example: